Part 2

Read the text and fill the gaps with sentences A-G. Write the letter of the missing sentence in the box in the correct gap. There is one extra sentence you will not need.

Dreaming of Retirement?

It is a moment that millions dream of: waking up on the first day of retirement. Freed, at last, from the daily workload, to sip cold drinks in the garden, gently enjoy pastimes and hobbies and explore exotic lands at leisure. That's the dream.

It found that more than 50 per cent of pensioners felt 'unhappy' on the first day of their retirement. About one in ten said they felt 'sad', 'anxious' or 'lost'. Only 48 per cent said they felt 'happy'.

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A spokesman for the Department for Work and Pensions, which carried out the study, said employees are increasingly rejecting the traditional idea of retirement.

Many would like to take a more gradual approach, slowly cutting back their hours or the number of days they work. Others just want to keep on working.

At 65, people have suddenly got two or three decades facing them and wonder how to fill the time. Work is what they have been doing for as long as they can remember.

The DWP questioned about 1,000 men and women about how they felt on the first day of their retirement.

The most common answer was 'friends', followed by 'being challenged', 'office humour and gossip' and 'a reason to get out of the house'.

Yet, official figures show the number of pensioners working beyond state pension age has increased by more than 55 per cent to 1.3 million. And for many of those still working, it is a necessity.

- A. They were also asked what they missed about their jobs.
- B. Holidays were said to be their main interest.
- C. But the reality is very different, a report reveals today.
- D. With just a basic state pension, many cannot afford to retire.
- E. People seem reluctant to suddenly stop full-time work at 60 or 65.
- F. Some of the reasons are financial, but it is not only about money.
- **G.** Others missed the office party, dressing smartly, or the canteen.

Total: 6 marks